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Reserve

USDA BULLETIN BOARD

Broadcast by Ruth Van Deman, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics
in the Department of Agriculture's portion of the National Farm and Home
Hour, Wednesday, July 14, 1943, over stations associated with the Blue Network.

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VAN DEMAN: This is Ruth Van Deman in Washington.

I often wish I could find words to state one important fact. It's so easy to say, "Food is a weapon," and it's so hard for any one of us to understand fully what that means. But today we have another Governmental action that demonstrate the use of food as a weapon. The Government is allocating food, in much the same way as it allocates planes and ships to the battlefronts where they'll do the most good.

The latest food allocations are those of canned fruits and vegetables. The War Food Administration has allocated the prospective supplies of canned fruits and vegetables among all the groups having a claim on that food.

We civilians will receive nearly 70 percent of the total supply of canned vegetables, including soup. And we'll get about 53 percent of the canned fruits and fruit juices. Now what does this mean as compared with what we've been getting in the past?

Well, we'll have less than we had during 1942. We know that. But we'll have more canned vegetables than we used on the average in the five years just before the war -- about four percent more. However, we'll have much less canned fruit40 percent less than we had in the average pre-war year. That figure does not include citrus fruit and citrus fruit juice. And it does not include what we can in our homes.

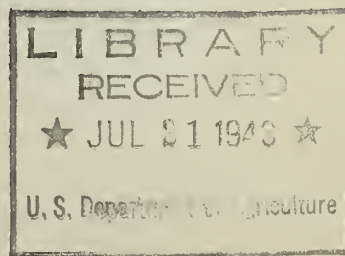
Here's how the commercially canned fruits and fruit juices will be divided: 53 percent to civilians, 40 percent to our military and war services, less than one-half of 1 percent to our Allies. The remainder will go for other exports and reserve.

Here's how the commercial pack of vegetables will be divided: 70 percent to civilians, 26 percent to military and war services, a little over 1 percent to our Allies, and the rest to other exports and reserves.

Many of us would like to buy more canned fruits and vegetables than that -- just as we would like to buy automobiles and refrigerators now. But canned foods are vital to our fighting men and to our fighting allies. It's up to us at home to do more of our own canning and to use fresh food whenever we can do so.

Now, some current information of another kind -- the market report.

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